NEWS

Lewis promotes Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit before Tax Day

February 20, 2024 . 3:27 PM — 2 min read

The following was submitted by the office of Sen. Jason Lewis:

State Sen. Jason Lewis is encouraging Massachusetts residents who are 65 or older to explore whether they qualify for the Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit when filing their 2023 state tax returns.

Created by the Legislature in 1999, the Circuit Breaker offers financial relief to eligible seniors by providing a refundable tax credit to help offset property taxes or rent paid on a principal residence in Massachusetts.

Although the tax credit was previously capped at $1,200 for 2022 tax filing purposes, recent changes approved by the House and Senate and signed into law by Governor Maura Healey last year have doubled the maximum tax credit to $2,590 for the 2023 tax year.

“I strongly encourage all residents who are 65 or older to find out if they are eligible for the Senior Circuit Breaker,” said Lewis. “This program has brought relief to many seniors struggling with high housing cost

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one of many important tools being used by the state to make housing more affordable."

The tax credit is available to Massachusetts residents who are 65 or older by Dec. 31, 2023, and who own or rent residential property in Massachusetts which they occupy as their primary residence. For married couples filing jointly, only one person needs to be 65 or older by Dec. 31, 2023, to qualify. The tax credit applies to residential properties with an assessed valuation (before residential exemptions but after abatements) of $1,025,000 or less as of Jan. 1, 2023.

Applicants must also meet certain income eligibility requirements to qualify for the tax credit. Total annual income is currently capped at $69,000 for single individuals who are not the head of a household, $86,000 for heads of households, and $103,000 for married taxpayers filing jointly.

For homeowners to qualify, their Massachusetts property tax payments, together with half of their water and sewer expenses, must exceed 10% of their total Massachusetts income for the tax year. For renters, 25% of their annual Massachusetts rent must exceed 10% of their total Massachusetts income for the tax year. Seniors living in public or subsidized housing are not eligible for the Circuit Breaker.

To claim the tax credit, applicants must complete a Schedule CB (Circuit Breaker Credit) tax form and file it along with the standard Massachusetts Form 1 or Form 1-NR/PY income tax form. Applicants must file a Massachusetts state tax return to receive the tax credit, even if they do not owe taxes.

For more details on the Senior Circuit Breaker or for copies of the required tax forms, go to www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-senior-circuit-breaker-tax-credit or contact the Department of R Customer Service Bureau at 617-887-6367 (toll-free at 1-800-392-6089)

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between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For additional help, please reach out to my office by emailing me at Jason.Lewis@masenate.gov or calling my office at 617-722-1206.

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Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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March 4, 2026

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Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

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Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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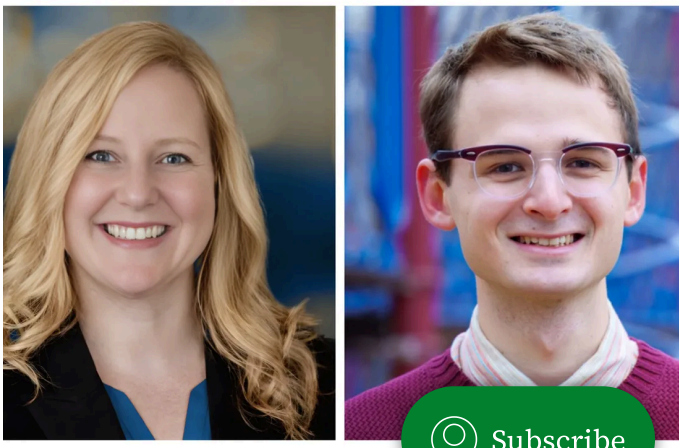

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Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

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March 4, 2026

FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

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March 4, 2026

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Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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